

# THE COMMERCIAL

The recognized authority on all matters pertaining to trade and progress in Western Canada, including the part of Ontario west of Lake Superior, the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia and the Territories.

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D. W. BUCHANAN,  
Publisher.

The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the vast region lying between Lake Superior and the Pacific coast than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, NOVEMBER 3.

## BRITAIN AND FRANCE.

The recent annual meeting of the Association of Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom, was held under somewhat novel circumstances. The meeting of the association, which represents the combined influence of the boards of trade and chambers of commerce of the United Kingdom, was held in Paris. It seems almost startling to think that in the face of all we have read recently about the hatred existing in France for everything British, that this great national association representing the varied business interests of the United Kingdom, should be meeting in France. The affair came about in this way. One of the several British chambers of commerce existing in foreign lands, has its headquarters in Paris. The members of the Paris chamber conceived the idea of inviting the association to hold its meeting in the French capital, during the progress of the great exposition. The invitation was accepted by the British association, and the annual meeting, the first one to be held on foreign soil, proved a great success.

It is pleasing to learn that the Britishers were given an enthusiastic reception in France. Of course the French people are nothing, if not polite, and the coming of such a distinguished body of men could hardly be overlooked, even if the members of the body could be considered mortal enemies of the French people. Still, the warmth of the reception accorded the Britishers hardly seems to bear out the belief that the French are as bitter against the British as they are represented to be by the press, or at least a section of the press. Let us hope that the evidences of hatred are only superficial and that the friendly feelings expressed by the French for their British visitors represents the real sentiment of the better class of Frenchmen.

The members of the British chambers of commerce landed on French soil at Calais, and here they were tendered a most hearty reception by the Calais chamber of commerce. At the luncheon that followed, there were sympathetic speeches from the members of the Calais chamber, and it is worthy of note that the speeches were made in English, while the visitors replied in French. The president of the Calais chamber characterized the "mischievous misrepresentations of certain newspapers" regarding the anti-British feeling in France as absurd. Altogether the speeches were of

a very felicitous nature on both sides. In Paris the visitors were accorded a very warm reception. The French minister of commerce and other notables were among those who met to welcome the British. M. Millerand, minister of commerce, said in the address of welcome:

He had the greatest pleasure in welcoming the eminent delegates of the British chambers of commerce on their arrival at the exhibition. They would have noted, with legitimate pride, the place which Great Britain held in that competition among the nations. Their visit possessed, at that time and under those circumstances, a special significance. It formed the clearest and most decisive reply to the attempts, as foolish as they were useless, which were made at times on both sides of the channel, to sow ill-feeling and distrust between two great peoples intended to understand and appreciate one another. Representatives of British commerce and industry knew better than any the strength of the ties which bound together the two nations, whose exchanges amounted to milliards of francs a year. French merchants, manufacturers, and agriculturists were no less convinced of the necessity of maintaining and strengthening the friendly relations between the two countries, and their reception in Paris would prove how those feelings were shared by the whole population. They found their most striking expression in that international fête which France was glad to offer to the world to the glory of labor and peace. In the name of the government of the republic, he offered them a cordial welcome.

The meeting of the association in Paris was closed with a grand banquet, at which M. Millerand and many other notable Frenchmen were present, and the evening was spent in the exchange of complimentary references between the Britishers and Frenchmen. While all is not gold that glitters, and smooth complimentary references at an affair of this kind may not be as genuine as they should be, yet the result of the meeting of the British Association of Chambers of Commerce in Paris can hardly fail to do good. Certainly there would seem to be every reason why business men in both countries should strive to maintain harmonious relations between the two nations. This is especially true of French business men, seeing to what a large extent France is dependent upon the United Kingdom as a customer for her exports. The United Kingdom is by all odds the best customer France has in the world, taking 1,200 million francs' worth of French goods, or more than one-third of the entire exports of that country, of which wines and silks form a very large portion. While France is a good customer of British producers, the balance of trade between the two countries is largely in favor of France, the latter country taking 700 million francs' worth of British goods. It may be here stated, however, that France imports more goods from the United Kingdom than from any other country.

These figures afford excellent reasons for hoping that friendly relations will be maintained between the two countries, and that the good sense of the people will eventually rise superior to the nasty bickerings and ill-temper which has been shown by a section of the press.

## TRADING UNDER ASSUMED NAMES.

A law has recently been enforced in New York state, compelling all persons doing business under what

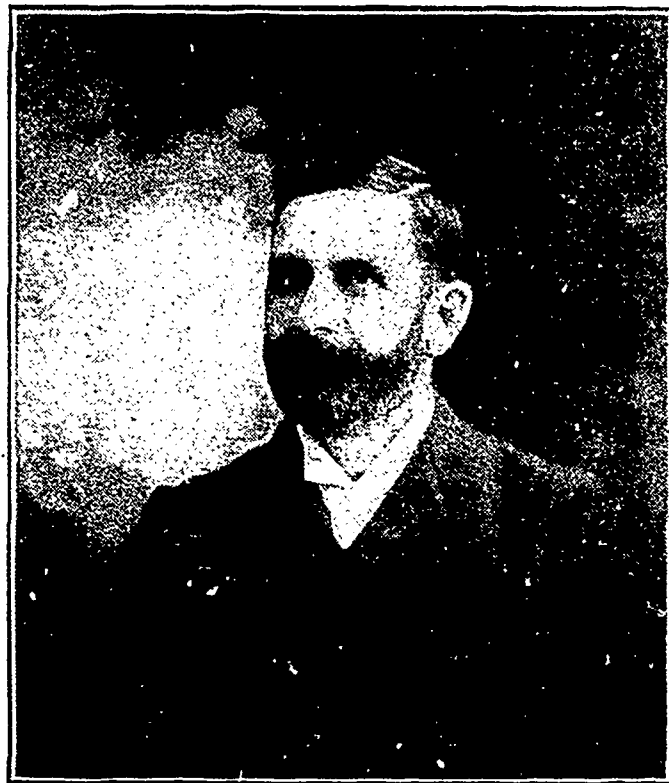
might be termed "fictitious firm styles," to register the real names of the responsible members of the firm or concern. This is quite a proper move and one which could be given wider application to advantage. Right here in Winnipeg business concerns have occasionally had unenviable experience through giving credit to concerns which have been floated under various high-sounding titles, but which soon proved to be without capital or standing. Usually the smaller the capital and the less reliable the individuals connected with the enterprise are, the higher sounding is the name selected under which the business is carried on. Winnipeg has had experience with a number of concerns started within a few years under various high-sounding names, but which proved to be utterly worthless and unreliable institutions within a short time. It would seem good policy to compel the immediate registration of the names of the responsible parties connected with all such concerns. When a business is established under an assumed name, such as the "Great Northwestern Manufacturing Co.," or any such assumed title. It would seem advisable to provide that the parties composing the so-called company should register at once, as soon as they put up a sign or attempt to do business under the name selected. Where two or more persons start

duce portraits of the two candidates who are contesting Winnipeg city for the federal parliament. Both of these



A. W. Puttee, M.P.,  
Independent Labor Candidate for Winnipeg

candidates first came prominently before the people at the time of the late by-election for the Dominion house in Winnipeg. Mr. Puttee was the successful one, and he now has the coveted handle of M. P. to his name. The same two gentlemen are again in the field. Mr. Puttee enjoys the dis-



E. D. Martin,  
Independent Candidate for Winnipeg.

in business under an ordinary firm name, giving the actual name of one or more of the partners, the immediate registration of the firm is not so necessary, as the responsible parties are usually known to those who may be asked for credit. But in the case of parties who assume "fictitious" or company names, registration should be compulsory, from the moment of starting business under such assumed name.

## THE CANDIDATES.

Last week we gave photo engravings of the two candidates in the by-election for the Manitoba legislature, in Centre Winnipeg. This week we pro-

duction of being one of the very few labor candidates elected to the last Canadian parliament, and what is most remarkable about this is, that he represented an almost purely commercial city, for Winnipeg is not an industrial centre. Mr. Puttee is one of the publishers of the Voice, Winnipeg's enterprising labor journal.

E. D. Martin is in the field as an independent candidate, and should he be more fortunate than he was in the previous election, he will no doubt adhere to his pledges of party independence. So far, therefore, as the two great parties are concerned, Winnipeg will have an independent member no matter which candidate is successful.